

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Fort Hall Agency

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Date: 02/22/2005

Time: 1330 pm

The Ft. Hall Agency and Shoshone Bannock Tribes continued the Hazard Fuel Reduction and Wildland Urban Interface Projects on the Ft. Hall Reservation.

All project-planning phases were completed and approved in subsequent years (2002/2003), with project implementation in late '03. 2004 saw the implementation of the Bannock Creek Wildland Urban Interface project (WUI), Mt. Putnam Hazard Fuel Reduction Project (HFR), and the continuation of the Ft. Hall Bottoms Hazard Fuel Reduction Project (HFR).

Community education began in Ross Fork, and approval from landowners to initiate fuel reduction treatments on individual trust lands obtained.

Spring 2004:

The Ft. Hall Bottoms (HFR) broadcast burn began in March '03. The objectives of the bottoms burn were to reduce fuel loading and improve wildlife habitat and plant diversity. The Ft. Hall Bottoms is located on the mid-east portion of the reservation next to the American Falls Reservoir.

The burn unit was approximately 124 acres, with 126 acres being burned. The use of the Sho-Ban wildland firefighters, along with the assistant of the Bureau of Land Management and the Fish and Wildlife Service, help implement the prescribed burn.





Collaboration with the Shoshone Bannock Tribes Resource Dept. and the Tribes GIS dept. was helpful during all phases of this project. Other treatment for this area included mechanical treatment with pile burning in '03, with a total acreage of 126.

Bannock Creek (WUI) project implementation began shortly after the Ft. Hall Bottoms burn. The National Fire Plan funding was contracted to the Shoshone Bannock Tribes, and a fuel reduction crew was hired to implement the project. The Bannock Creek (WUI) is located along the Arbon Valley road located in the southern portion of the reservation.



Approximately 38 acres of treatment were completed on the Bannock Creek WUI project. Treatments included mechanical removal, piling, burning, and chipping.

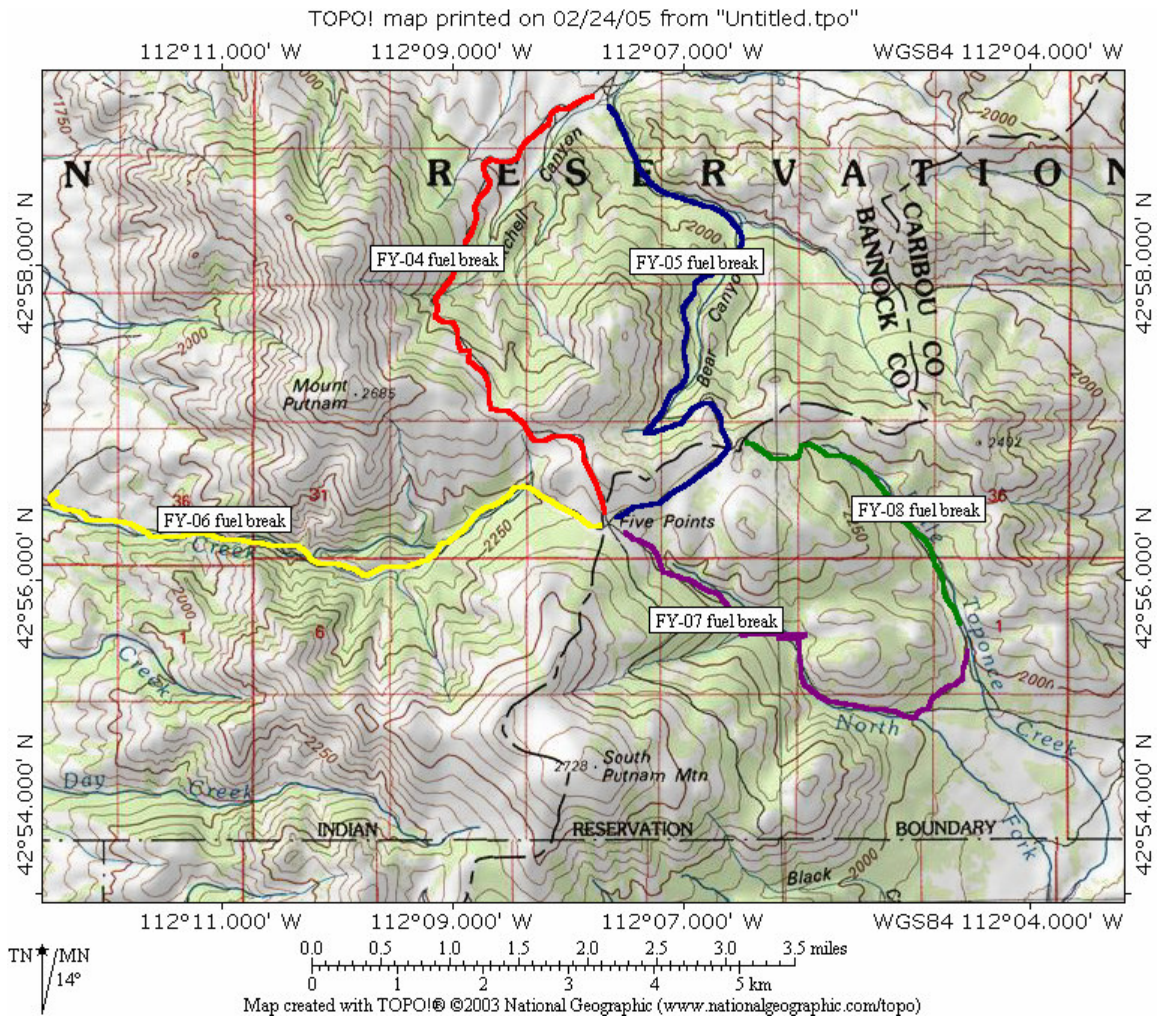
Typical home site on Bannock Creek WUI project, homes surround by grass/sage fuel types.

Mt. Putnam Hazard Fuel Reduction Project (HFR).

The Mt. Putnam (HFR) project began in late summer (August). National fire Plan funding for this project was contracted to the Tribes and fuels crews hired through the Tribes. This is a continuing project and is expected to take multiple years to complete.



Fuel loading example on Mt. Putnam (Right)



Proposed hazard fuel reduction vicinity map of Mt. Putnam. As stated earlier, the Putnam (HFR) project began in late summer 2004 and continues as weather permits.

Ft. Hall Agency/Shoshone Bannock Tribes Project Implementation:

| Project Name | Treatment Date | Acres Completed |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Ft. Hall Bottoms | Broadcast Burn | 126 |
| Mt. Putnam HFR | Thin & Pile | 10 |
| Bannock Creek WUI | Thin & Pile | 15 |
| Bannock Creek WUI | Pile Burn | 8 |
| Bannock Creek WUI | Chip | 7 |